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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, in these halls of power, where decisions change lives and shape national policy, we pause to acknowledge Your sovereignty over us and over our Nation.

In Your infinite mercy, You have laid on the shoulders of these lawmakers the mantle of Your own authority, and we pray for both the wisdom and the humility to wield it carefully.

When they are inclined, as we all are, to take sole credit for the achievements You have orchestrated, call them away to a quiet place, away from the enticement of the world's approbation, and reveal to them Your involvement in their activities and inspire in them again their call to servant leadership.

When any of us are hesitant to use the positions and the possibilities You lay before us, we pray Your blessing over even the most meager of our gifts. Multiply their impact exponentially. May they be sufficient to meet the needs of the people and the country You have given us opportunity to serve.

God, You did not give us a spirit of fear—or of pride—but of power derived from Your own love for all of creation.

Give us also spirits of love and self-control that on this day we would live faithfully into Your gracious plan.

In the strength of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MORELLE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will take this occasion to update her announced policies of January 4, 2021, regarding the requirement to wear masks in the Hall of the House during the coronavirus crisis.

Consistent with the newly updated guidance from the Office of the Attending Physician related to the increased threat from the delta variant of the virus, the Chair wishes to inform all Members and staff that masks will once again be required in the Hall of the House. However, Members will be permitted to remove their masks temporarily while under recognition.

To be clear, Members and staff must wear masks in the Hall of the House at all times except that a Member may remove his or her mask when recognized by the Chair. In addition, Members presiding as Chair may remove their mask when speaking.

This announcement is incorporated within the policy on conduct during a covered period of January 4, 2021, and supersedes any other announced policy that is in conflict. The Sergeant at Arms is directed to enforce mask requirements consistent with this announcement. Members are reminded that under House Resolution 38, the Sergeant at Arms is authorized and directed to impose a fine against any Member acting in violation of this policy.

The Chair appreciates the continued attention of all Members and staff to

these health and safety protocols, particularly in this changing health environment.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HOT FERC SUMMER

(Mr. CASTEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CASTEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to continue our celebration of Hot FERC summer. As climate activist Fergie would certainly say: The FERCalicious definition is to make our planet cooler.

So listen up, y'all, 'cause this is it. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or better known as the F to the E to the R to the C, is one of the most important Federal agencies to fight climate change. And if I am doing this right, one that a few more of you are now keeping tabs on.

Having a well air-conditioned home when it is "hot-hot"? That is FERCalicious.

Getting your electricity from the lowest cost reliable source? FERCalicious.

An electric transmission system that keeps everything from electric vehicles to steel mills running with zero carbon electricity? FERCalicious.

With record-setting heat waves already causing deadly droughts, wildfires, and overwhelmed power grids, we have run out the clock and must transition to a clean energy economy—and we need FERC's help.

So, today, I am proud to introduce the Right to Timely Rehearings at FERC Act with my friend, Mr. MALINOWSKI, a bill to ensure everyone has access to fair and timely hearings at the Commission.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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